

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In the Matter of the Commission,) Application No. C-1628/NUSF
on its own motion, seeking to)
conduct an investigation into) PROGRESSION ORDER NO. 21
intrastate access charge reform)
and intrastate universal service)
fund.) Entered: May 13, 2003

BY THE COMMISSION:

1. This matter comes before the Commission upon the request filed by Dalton Telephone Co., Inc. (Dalton), and Elsie (Elsie) Communications, Inc., on April 1, 2003, for approval of a modification in the calculation of their earnings.

2. In its request, Dalton and Elsie state that they wish to change the elections selected in the filing of their initial NUSF Transition Plan in 1999. At that time, Dalton and Elsie chose to calculate their earnings using a one-year average. Further, Dalton elected to calculate its earnings on a total company basis. On April 1, 2003, Dalton and Elsie requested permission to calculate their earnings on an intrastate basis using a three-year average test period.

O P I N I O N A N D F I N D I N G S

3. In the C-1628 Order, the Commission permitted ILECs to utilize a one-year or three-year averaged period for the determination of the ILEC's earnings relative to the calculation of NUSF payments. Although, the Commission will not consider requests such as this lightly, upon review of the particular facts which led to the applicants' request and being fully advised in the premises, the Commission finds that the request filed by Dalton and Elsie should be approved effective September 1, 2003.

4. The Commission further finds that the request of Dalton to change the calculation of its earnings from a total company basis to an intrastate basis should be approved.

5. Because of the changes approved herein, the Commission finds that Dalton and Elsie should be granted a two-week extension of time for the submission of the final NUSF-EARN form in order to give Dalton and Elsie an opportunity to file this year's form consistent with this approval. Therefore, the

finalized NUSF-EARN forms for Dalton and Elsie should be due two weeks from the date of entry of this Order.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Nebraska Public Service Commission that the request filed by Dalton Telephone Co. Inc. and Elsie Communications, Inc. should be and is hereby granted as set forth herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a two-week extension of time be granted as provided herein.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 13th day of May 2003.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS CONCURRING:

Chair

ATTEST:

Executive Director